WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Approval of TV serials

*663. SHRl HARENDRA SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of norms adopted for giving approval to TV serials;

(b) whether many irregularities have been noticed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Govemment against guilty persons/officers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that there are separate guidelines for processing of proposals of TV serials telecast on Doordarshan under sponsored and commissioned categories. The proposals for sponsored serials are first considered by the Evaluation Committee, and those recommended by this Committee are put to the Selection Committee which consists of senior officials of Doordarshan and outside experts from various fields.

The proposals of serials under commissioned category are first evaluated by Evaluation Committee which consists of senior officials of Doordarshan and outside experts from various fields. Thereafter, the short listed programmes are put up to the Costing Committee for final decision.

(b) and (c) Prasar Bharati has also intimated that these guidelines are strictly followed by Doordarshan. Programme matters of Doordarshan, including selection of serials, are under the purview of Prasar Bharati, which is fully empowered to take decisions in this regard. Necessary action to deal with cases of irregularities is taken in accordance with existing rules and regulations.

Anti-piracy body for film and music industries

*666. SHRI C.P. TH1RUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment propose to set-up a National Anti-piracy Umbrella Body for the film and music industries, as suggested by the Cll-Emst and Young Report on Entertainment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;